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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/833,763	04/13/2001	Hiroshi Isono	109246	3912
25944	7590	11/03/2005		EXAMINER
OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC P.O. BOX 19928 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22320				KING, BRADLEY T
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3683	

DATE MAILED: 11/03/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/833,763	ISONO, HIROSHI
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Bradley T. King	3683

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 11 August 2005.
 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-36,42,43 and 45-48 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) 3-6 and 20 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) 25-36,42 and 43 is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1,2,7,8,13,14,16,18,19,22,24,45 and 48 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) 9-12,15,17,21,23,46 and 47 is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date 8-05.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-2, 7-8, 13-14, 16, 18-19, 22, 24, 45 and 48 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by DE 197 16 404.

DE 197 16 404 discloses all the limitations of the instant claims including: a master cylinder 1 including a housing and at least two pressurizing pistons (4a, 6a) which are fluid-tightly and slidably fitted in the housing and which cooperate with the housing to define at least two pressurizing chambers (4, 6) which are isolated from each other, and wherein a working fluid in each of the at least two pressurizing chambers is pressurized by an advancing movement of a corresponding one of the at least two pressurizing pistons, a hydraulically operable brake cylinder 3 for activating a brake, and a valve device (12, 25) having a first state in which the pressurized fluid is delivered from the two pressurizing chambers to the brake cylinder, and a second state in which the pressurized fluid is delivered from only one of the two chambers to the brake cylinder and the fluid is permitted to be discharged from the other of said two

pressurizing chambers but none of the fluid discharged from the other of the two pressurizing chambers is permitted to be delivered to said brake cylinder. Note figure 3.

Regarding claim 13, valves 12, 21 or 22 also functions as a cut-off valves.

Regarding claim 22, assisting device 10 functions to boost pressure above that of the master cylinder.

Regarding claim 24, brake pressure control valve device 20 is disposed between the assisting device and the brake cylinder.

Regarding claim 48, see relief valve 31.

Claims 1, 7-8, 13, 16, 18-19, and 45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by DE 3426612.

DE 34 26 612 discloses all the limitations of the instant claims including: a master cylinder including a housing and at least two pressurizing pistons (forming an integral unit 1) which are fluid-tightly and slidably fitted in the housing and which cooperate with the housing to define at least two pressurizing chambers (6-8) which are isolated from each other, and wherein a working fluid in each of the at least two pressurizing chambers is pressurized by an advancing movement of a corresponding one of the at least two pressurizing pistons, a hydraulically operable brake cylinder (near 12) for activating a brake, and a valve device (13-14) having a first state in which the pressurized fluid is delivered from the two pressurizing chambers to the brake cylinder (valves actuated), and a second state (valves un-actuated) in which the pressurized fluid is delivered from only one of the two chambers to the brake cylinder and the fluid is

permitted to be discharged from the other of said two pressurizing chambers but none of the fluid discharged from the other of the two pressurizing chambers is permitted to be delivered to said brake cylinder.

Regarding claim 13, valves 13-14 also functions as a cut-off valves.

Regarding claim 22, assisting device 10 functions to boost pressure above that of the master cylinder.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 25-36 and 42-43 are allowed.

Claims 9-12, 15, 17, 21, 23, and 46-47 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed 8/11/2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Regarding DE 19716404, it is maintained the rejection is proper. The new "wherein" clause appears to be directed towards the claimed valve device. It is maintained that the valve device of DE 19716404 reads upon the claim limitations. Separating the "wherein" limitation from the valve device recitation such that it is clear

the features of the clause are features of the braking system, not just the valve device, may help define over the reference.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Bradley T. King whose telephone number is (571) 272-7117. The examiner can normally be reached on 11:00-7:30 M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James McClellan can be reached on (571) 272-6786. The fax phone

number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

BTK

James McClellan
JAMES McCLELLAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER
11/1/05